



Bourne's Wharf was situated at the end of Duck Hill Rd., and for many years preceding the coming of the railroad, it was a small but much used port. Three hundred ton vessels were said to have been build there also. The Boston Packet stopped there with its cargo on its way to Plymouth, as well as other ships of smaller tonnage from southern ports.

In 1797 Asa Weston, mariner and shipwright, bought land of Abel Chandler which included part of the wharf as well as acreage on the northerly side of Duck Hill Rd., on which he built his home. It was a 2-story, raised frame building of federal style, located on the slope overlooking the wharf and the river. It faced the road which was south and had the customary floor plan with the central chimney, 2 large rooms in front and the kitchen and smaller rooms in back.

Asa had married Abigail Kent of Marshfield in 1793 (his second marriage) and had a family of 3 boys to fill his new home. Thomas Kent Weston was brought up there and continued to live there after he was married. Picture him as a small boy watching the ships come in and dreaming of the day when he would go to sea. Eventually he became master of a packet from Boston to Plymouth which stopped at his own wharf.

In 1816 the estate of Asa Weston became the property of Peleg Weston (an enterprising cousin) by a foreclosed mortgage. However Asa's family continued to live there for years. Afterwards it was occupied by Peleg's heirs as well as by tenants for it contained accommodations for 2 families.

The Old Colony Railroad was finished in 1871 and the track ran very close to the house. Gradually the wharf went out of existence. The railroad company bought the house in 1895 and continued to rent it. At one time Arthur Bellevance, a railroad employee, lived there with his family.

In the late 1920s, the house was moved to its present site on the westerly side of Enterprise St. near Marshfield. It was cut in 2 horizontally, the upper half moved to a nearby location and the lower half remaining on this site. So the first floor and the original ell, with a fine fiew of Arnold's Brook are the old Asa Weston house from Duck Hill Rd. with the gambrell roofed second floor added on.

Other features, such as the rather pretentious transoms over upstairs doors and the intriguing cabinet doors in the dining room were imported from Boston by Warren Prince who owned the land on Enterprise St. and had moved the house. The resulting building is a charming gambrel roofed house with an unusually fine front room. Some floor boards are exceptionally wide and well preserved as is some of the vertical paneling, among the widest boards left in Duxbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wolfe have further restored this portion of Asa Weston's house and have been living in it since 1947.

Virginia Seaver, researcher

Date Board Committee Duxbury
Rural and Historical Society